

Quartet of Islanders Clouting the Ball Hard

REASON ENOUGH WHY NINE OF LAST 13 CONTESTS HAVE BEEN WON; PERUSE STICK AVERAGES

Average Per Cent in Home Games for First Four in Batting Order is .451.

GAMES TOMORROW.

Rockford at Rock Island.
Yolme at Cedar Rapids.
Evansville at Peoria.
Terre Haute at Bloomington.

One good reason why the Islanders have won nine and lost only four games in the 13 contests engaged in at home this far is the quality of the stick work. Added to this is effective pitching. But the team has scored lots of runs and they have been due principally to the heavy batting of the first four men in the batting order. Murphy, H. Jones, Elmer Benson and Ben Smith.

A perusal of their records as shown in the box scores of the 13 games played in Rock Island, the only ones in which the Islanders figured as winners, the opening games being lost to Bloomington at Bloomington, brings to light the interesting fact that the quartet has been clouting the ball an average per cent of .351, good enough to win half games most of the time.

Murphy, shortstop, dropped from .347 for games not including Saturday to .319 because it so happened it was one of the rare games in which he did not get a hit out of three chances.

Howard Jones, rightfielder, has been clouting the apple at .370 per cent. In his last 46 times at bat he has obtained 17 safe smacks.

Elmer Benson has been performing heavily with the stick, his average being .319 for the 13 home games. Elmer has got 15 hits out of 47 tries with the willow.

Smith Hits .297.
Ben Smith in the role of cleanup has been setting a terrific pace. The big first baseman has stepped to bat 51 times in 13 games and hit safely an even 20 times. His per cent is .392. It might be of further interest to note that in the first two games at Bloomington, Smith got three hits in seven times at bat, and this makes his per cent for all games .397.

Is it any wonder then that the Islanders have forged rapidly to the front from a lowly position? With the first four men in the batting order clouting the ball at such a terrific pace it is bound to go hard with the opposing pitchers.

Other members of the team have not been so fortunate with the bat, but there is lots of time. Gallagher is the next heaviest hitter with an average of .290 for home contests. Gallagher has hit safely in the last eight consecutive games, and previous to this he has missed hitting in only three games.

Rain Halts Games.
If Old Sol had peeped through the clouds for a while yesterday morning there might have been some interesting doings at Douglas park in the afternoon, when Rock Island and Rockford were scheduled to get together in their first clash of the season. As it was, the clouds hung heavily all day and the moisture that fell Sunday and Sunday night remained in the ground, making the playing field much too soggy for a contest. The game was not declared off until a half hour before it was set to begin.

The managers of both teams had the players in uniform, but in the end the negatives won the day. The cancellation of Sunday's tilt with Bloomington was a severe blow to the Islanders' exchequer. There is no questioning the estimates that at least 3,000 fans would have paid their way into Douglas park. And then Rockford comes on for an important series and the first clash here has to be called off, but just the same the visiting team gets its daily guarantee. But at that it isn't so much to have to postpone the week-day games, but Saturday and Sunday attendance figures comprise the backbone of the season's source of money supply. It is something that can't be recovered from to watch a Sunday tilt without a game.

Providing the weather man shows a better spirit from now on, Rockford and Rock Island still have five games here, and at Rockford. The Islanders need to win three in order to rest in top position at the conclusion of the two series.

The poor baseball weather seems to be general all over the circuit. Rockford and Terre Haute were the only two teams able to mix on Sunday and yesterday all games were called off on account of rain and wet grounds. This means that June and July are going to witness a number of double-headers that are not called for on the schedule.

GIANTS TO OPEN SERIES WITH CUBS

Chicago, May 18.—Another contingent of exclusive 1920 style of weather reached Chicago yesterday in spite of the freight tieup, and hurried into the Cubs' winning streak by postponing the final game of the Boston series. It will be played off on July 20, an open date for both teams.

In the present atmospheric grouch the New York Giants will open a four-game set on the north side lot, and endeavor to stop the climbing Cubs. McGraw's men haven't been doing any too well this spring, and are correspondingly peeved, consequently may not be expected to submit to further humiliation without a fight.

Jersey City, N. J., May 18.—Inability of Joe Lynch to make 118 pounds caused a postponement of the 12-round bout with Pal Moore, scheduled here for last night.

CHECK OVER OF CONTESTS SHOWS ROCKS IN LEAD

A mixup in the Three-Eye league percentage column since the opening of the season on April 29, and Rockford, not Rock Island, is found to be leading the league by a half game over the Islanders. Rockford with nine won and five lost has a percentage of .643, while Rock Island with nine won and six lost has a percentage of .600.

This condition seems to have been general throughout the Three-Eye circuit, Rockford being checked with one game in the lost column that should be shown in the won column. Several of the papers also have shown Rock Island with one game less in the won column than what she should have. The standings as printed today on this page are the result of a careful check and are what they should be, according to games won and lost.

Fight Results

(By United Press.)
Pittsburgh, Kan., May 18.—A foul the fourth round of a scheduled 10-round bout last night at Frontenac, Kan., gave the decision to Neal Allison, Waterloo, Iowa, over Joe McGowan, Kansas City. Joe substituted for his brother, Frank, receiving the first "lose" of his career.

SPORTING JAZZ

BY BRUCE COPELAND

"FUNNY FACE."

I often think of "Funny Face,"
A kid I used to know,
Whose teeth protruded into space;

His eyes: One high, one low,
And though we kidded that he
Never lost his nappy;
He always followed us about
With patience quite uncanny.

No "best girl" ever made him
blush
With early vanishing smiles.
Because the look upon his mush
Was proof from sugared smiles.

The older folk remarked that he
Was just a freak of nature,
So "Funny Face" was doomed
to be
His steady nomenclature.

But in his breast a heart of gold
Lied there in lots of time.
And features God forgot to
mold
Rare beauty now attest.

Today I think of "Funny Face"
As just a boyhood relic;
That mug has gone, but in its
place
Appears a face angelic.

So dear was life unto that boy,
He cared not for the end,
But gave his own with utmost
joy
To save that of a friend.

Long years I've roamed o'er
land and sea
Among all sorts of races,
Yet, what a fine world this
would be
With more such "Funny
Faces."

Perhaps it is just as well for
Noah that he didn't own a ball club.
With all that rain, the ark would
have become an asylum.

Jupiter Pluvius, according to all
baseball magnates, is a worse
foe than Jim the Penman.
Every time he pays a visit he leaves
a trail of bad (rain) checks in his
wake.

The Sox have turned down 5,000
smackers for Lowdermilk. He's so
wild, he's funny.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS.

Caranza to surrender.
(—) to be married.
Ty Cobb to go back.
Charlie Chaplin to go to work.
A little less rain.
Forty-dollar suits.
Peace.
A raise, etc.

"Pirates Come From Behind and Beat Giants." That's the way pirates always come.

POOR FIELDING IS REASON FOR SOX DEFEAT BY BOSTON

Boston, Mass., May 18.—Some dandy hurling by Roy Wilkins went to waste yesterday because of poor fielding by the White Sox, and the second of the series went to the Boston hose by a 2 to 1 margin. Gleason's champs erred at critical times, and on two occasions the locals eased over a run for enough to cap the matinee.

The Chicagoans perpetrated three errors, but only one of these figured in the run getting. Another play also helped, Schalk being unusually slow in getting away a throw on a double steal in the first frame. A run resulted. The disastrous error also was the work of Schalk. In fielding a batted ball in the eighth hit the runner in the back, giving

HOW THEY STAND

THREE-EYE LEAGUE.

	W.	L.	Pct.
Rockford	9	5	.643
Rock Island	9	6	.600
Bloomington	8	7	.533
Terre Haute	7	7	.500
Moline	7	8	.467
Cedar Rapids	6	7	.462
Peoria	6	8	.429
Evansville	5	9	.357

AMERICAN LEAGUE.

	W.	L.	Pct.
Cleveland	17	7	.708
Boston	15	8	.652
Chicago	12	10	.545
New York	12	12	.500
St. Louis	12	12	.500
Washington	12	13	.480
Philadelphia	8	14	.364
Detroit	6	18	.250

NATIONAL LEAGUE.

	W.	L.	Pct.
Cincinnati	16	10	.615
Brooklyn	12	9	.571
Pittsburgh	12	10	.545
Chicago	12	12	.500
Boston	10	9	.526
Philadelphia	10	14	.417
St. Louis	9	14	.391
New York	8	13	.381

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS.

Three-Eye League.
All games postponed; rain.

American League.
Boston, 2; Chicago, 1.
Detroit, 9; Philadelphia, 7.
St. Louis, 2; Washington, 1.

National League.
Pittsburgh, 7; New York, 6.
Other games; rain.

Canton, Ohio, May 18.—Mike O'Dowd, recently deposed middleweight king, outpointed Jack Britton, welterweight champion, in a 12-round bout here last night.

DOINGS OF THE DUFFS

BY ALLMAN



The SPORTLIGHT

by Grantland Rice

How About It?
When within your roped arena
Some remorseless referee
Awards the quick decision
To your smiling vis-a-vis:
Though your ears are cauliflowered
And you're down beyond a doubt,
Can you tip your battered derby
To the guy who knocked you out?

When you're always finding trouble
In the bunkers or the rough,
And your score is proof conclusive
That you haven't got the stuff,
As they pass you on the fairway
In a baseline straight ahead,
Can you lift your brown Fedora
To the guy who plays 'em dead?

When the other chap draws saives
While you only get the gate,
And you find yourself believing
You're a chronic second-rate;
As the big or paltry lickings
Cloud the ending of your day
Can you doff your dusty kelly
To the guy who showed the way?

LESLE ALAN TAYLOR.

Serious Oversight.
In the last few years the Red Sox have got rid of Tris Speaker, "Babe" Ruth, Duffy Lewis, Dutch Leonard, Carl Mays, Larry Gardner and Ernie Shore among others.

The ordinary outfit that had lost this much talent would be 26 fathoms under the grotto. But apparently the only serious oversight the Red Sox have made so far is not getting rid of Harry Hooper, the last of their old stars.

With Hooper tossed out the flag would be a merry romp, judging from the way things seem to break every time they chase a star performer off the reservation.

Joe Beckett insists upon being the English heavyweight champion, no matter what outsiders hang on his jaw. It's no pallid certainty that

College Stars.
The two best ex-collegians in the big leagues are George Sisler and Eddie Collins.

But among those who are not collegians nor ex-collegians are Cobb, Ruth, Weaver, Groh, Roush, Hornsby, Alexander, Johnson, Cicotte, Speaker, Maranville and Peckinpaugh.

There are not as many ex-collegians in baseball as there were back in the days when Mathewson, Benders, Plank, Devlin, Collins, etc., got away with the headlines in bulk.

There was a day when you could pick an ex-college line-up capable of beating the non-collegians.

Imagine a pitching staff that carried Mathewson, Bender, Plank, Coombs and Overall at their best! But for some reason the collegian isn't dashing into the thick of the major league play as swiftly as he once did. Nothing like it.

It is still hard for an Englishman to believe that a much lighter Frenchman can trim Albion's best in less than two minutes. And now that it has been proved again that Beckett is the best British heavyweight in sight, look out for some immediate gossip about a return match.

The Hustling Kid.
Alfred Damon Runyon recently had a series of penshots on the leading hustlers in the major leagues.

His array was a select one, but if we had to cast a vote for the Hustlin' Kid in the Ancient Order of Sons of Swat it would likely go to Buck Weaver, of the White Sox. Weaver is and has been to the White Sox what Johnny Evers was

to the old Cubs, an everlasting inspiration in the way of pep.

He is not only a great ball player but a great fighter, one who seems to give 100 per cent of everything he has to each contest.

Whether it's an ordinary scrap or a world series the general idea is about the same to Buck—give 'em all you got.

GAMBLING'S GRIP ON MAJOR AMERICAN SPORTS IS BEING LOOSEMED BY MEANS OF WAR

GRUDGE AFFAIR TO BE SETTLED BY TWO PRELIMS

Kid Carver and Frankie Scherbroeck have been matched by the Sportsman's Athletic club for one of the preliminaries to the double win-up it is arranging for May 25 at the Illinois theatre. Carver and Scherbroeck have a sort of grudge existing between them. Both are anxious to go against each other and settle the argument.

The club is dickering for another preliminary of four rounds, which all told will provide 28 rounds of boxing. Cal Delaney of Cleveland will make his third appearance in the Rock Island ring when he meets Pete Marlow in the last half of the double bill. Cal is rated as one of the real topnotchers of the time in view of his recent accomplishments, among which was the defeat of Eddie Fitzsimmons, the eastern southpaw.

GIANTS DOWNED IN 15 INNINGS BY PITTSBURGH, 7-6

Pittsburgh, Pa., May 18.—Pittsburgh defeated New York, 7 to 6, in 15 innings yesterday. Cooper and Toney were both hit hard and gave way to Carlson and Douglas, they in turn retiring in favor of Ponder and Barnes.

With the score a tie in the 15th inning, New York scored twice on a hit and wild throw by Grimm and Ponder. In the last half of the 15th inning Pittsburgh scored three runs on Higbee's triple, a pass to Cary, singles by Whitfield and Caton, and a long hit by Grimm that was good for three bases, but counted as a single only, as the winning run was driven in from third base. Score: R. H. E. Pittsburgh.....6 12 3 New York.....7 13 3

Number of Arrests Have Been Made in Pittsburgh, Which Has Proved Effective.

BY HENRY L. FARRELL.

(United Press Staff Correspondent.)
New York, May 18.—Gambling's grip on the major American sports is being loosened by a general pressure on the wrist.

War on the baseball gamblers is working up a good sized casualty list and means are being heard from several of the big race tracks where the shots of stewards are finding a mark.

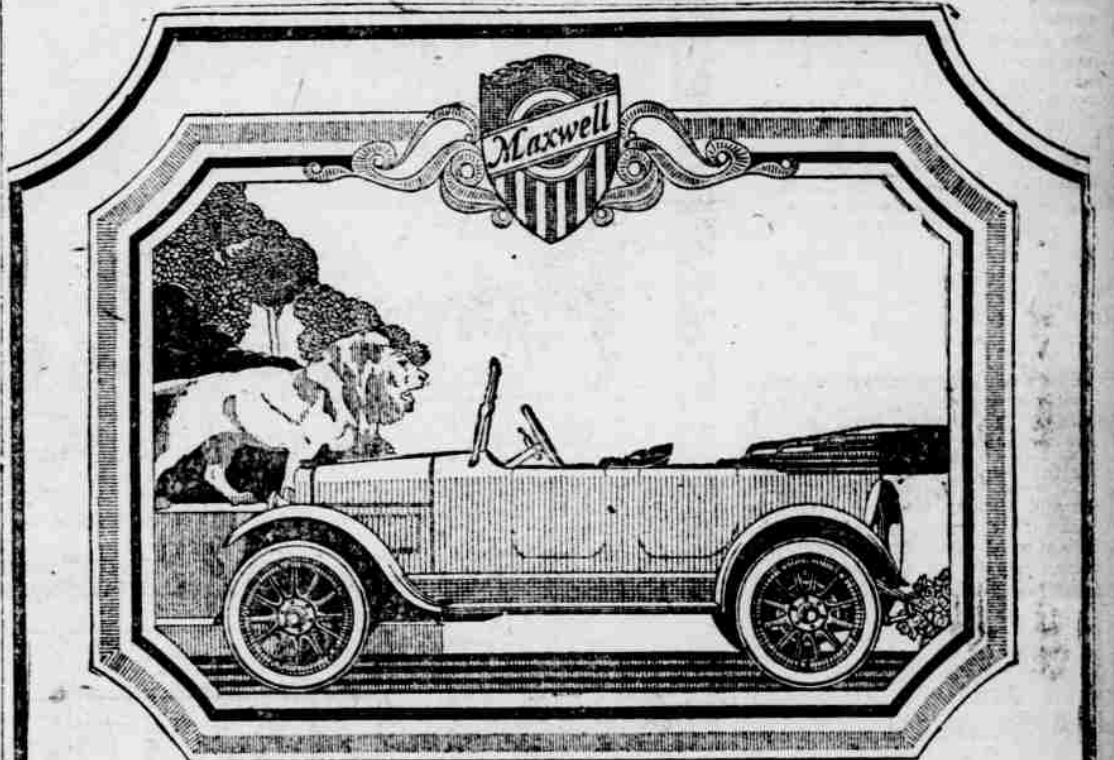
Following a policy adopted during the winter when tales of the "fixed" world series were being passed around, the major league club owners are enlisting the aid of city police and private detectives against the "professional" grand stand gamblers.

As a climax to the cleanup inaugurated during the winter when two of the biggest jockeys of the turf were ruled off, officials at the Jamaica track take a post on a stool near the gates and ask the notorious gamblers to take a little ride back to the city.

"Baseball campaign against the gambler has been productive of results, especially in Pittsburgh where a number of arrests have been made," President John Heydler of the National league, said.

"Various efforts are necessary to stop gambling," Heydler says. "Organized baseball has decided to stop it. Little friendly bets are not as scandalous as the gambler who stands up on the seat, waves a handful of greenbacks and shouts odds that lead some persons to believe he is 'on the inside.'"

The same opinion is shared by the Jamaica track officials. The Jockey club does not sanction betting but the track officials have no objection to small wagering. The big gambler, who yells loudest when he loses and casts suspicious at the character of sport, is the object of the drive.



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